

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Leighton et al.
Filed: Concurrently herewith
For: FABRIC-REINFORCED BELT FOR CONVEYING FOOD

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

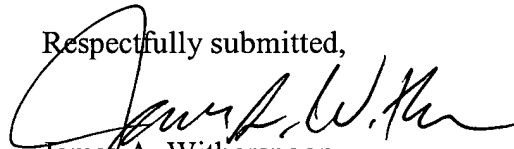
**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
CITATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97**

Sir:

Attached is a list of documents on form PTO-1449. In accordance with the Office waiver published July 11, 2003, copies of the cited U.S. patents and patent application publications are not enclosed. Applicant does enclose copies of any cited foreign patent documents and non-patent literature in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2).

It is requested that the Examiner consider these documents and officially make them of record in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and Section 609 of the MPEP. By submitting the listed documents, Applicant in no way makes any admission as to the prior art status of the listed documents, but is instead submitting the listed documents for the sake of full disclosure.

Respectfully submitted,

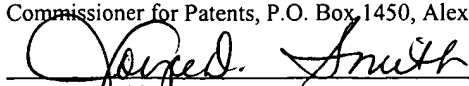


James A. Witherspoon
Registration No. 36,723

Customer No. 00826
ALSTON & BIRD LLP
Bank of America Plaza
101 South Tryon Street, Suite 4000
Charlotte, NC 28280-4000
Tel Charlotte Office (704) 444-1000
Fax Charlotte Office (704) 444-1111
#4626055v1

"Express Mail" mailing label number EV 231897186 US
Date of Deposit February 17, 2004

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to:
Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



Joyce D. Smith

Substitute for form 1449/PTO (Revised 04/2003) INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known		
				Application Number		
				Filing Date		
				First Named Inventor		
				Group Art Unit		
				Examiner Name		
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number 109537/269021		
U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Document Number Number - Kind Code (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages of Relevant Figures Appear	
	1	US-4,064,915	12-27-1977	Buyssens et al.		
	2	US-4,168,340	09-18-1979	Buyssens et al.		
	3	US-4,769,202	09-06-1988	Eroskey et al.		
	4	US-4,770,290	09-13-1988	Eroskey et al.		
	5	US-4,820,143	04-11-1989	Eroskey et al.		
	6	US-5,316,132	05-31-1994	Muraoka et al.		
	7	US-5,558,207	09-24-1996	Zabron et al.		
	8	US-5,595,284	01-21-1997	Takahashi et al.		
	9	US-6,540,069	04-01-2003	Tschantz		
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document Country Code - Number Kind Code (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	English Language Translation Attached
	10	JP 06040535 A	02-15-1994	Nippon Jiikuringu KK		*
		* Abstract Only				
OTHER DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.				English Language Translation Attached
	11	Fairchild's Dictionary of Textiles, Sixth Edition, I. B. Wingate, 1979, p. 349				
Examiner Signature		Date Considered				

*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. #4626056v1